

# VINITA DAILY CHIEFTAIN.

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## TO STRIKE DOWN OKLAHOMA SCHOOLS

Avowed Object is to Promote Interests of the Akin Initiative Bill.

Oklahoma City, Dec. 18.—The stand which Governor Cruce has taken in the interests of economy was commended; a constitution was adopted and a temporary organization formed by the Taxpayers' Educational League of Oklahoma at the Lee-Huckins hotel Saturday afternoon, and another meeting has been called for the first Saturday in January, when a permanent organization will be formed in support of the bill initiated by Representative Oliver H. Akin of Moore, for a reduction in the number of state schools. About twenty persons attended the meeting.

J. S. Moore of Altus, Jackson county, was elected president of the league; Oliver H. Akin of Moore was named secretary-treasurer, and John G. James of Roff, former president of the A. & M. college of Bryan, Texas, is first vice president. Other vice presidents will be named later, and they will be ex-officio presidents of the county organizations.

The meeting was called by Mr. Akin, who declared that it is not the purpose of the organization to put the blame for the deplorable condition of affairs that now exists in the state on the shoulders of any person or organization but that there is a condition of educational chaos with little return and large expenditures of money, which it is the purpose to remedy.

He said that while the state has spent \$1,500,000 on state school buildings, this is merely a prelude to what will be expended later, and that now is the best time to check this waste, which within a few years will have grown to at least \$4,000,000 for buildings alone.

Local High School.

The normal and other schools maintained by the state, he said, are merely local high schools, instead of higher educations of learning, and he referred to the fact that at the School of Mines at Wilburton there are but twelve students who live outside of the town in which the institution is located.

The per capita cost of education at a state institution, he declared, is from \$150 to \$475 per year. Edmond has the lowest per capita cost with \$150, while the secondary agricultural school at Lawton is highest, with \$475. Many high schools of the state give equal advantages at a cost of less than \$20 per capita, he said.

He said that the entire system of public schools is but a scheme for more prestige on the part of the politicians, and the best time to stop it is right now.

Following the election of officers, a constitution with the following preamble was adopted:

"We, taxpayers of the state of Oklahoma, in convention assembled, being fully convinced that there is a great lack of economy, useless duplication and little return from the investment in the so-called higher institutions of learning in this state; that there is not present a proper balance between the expenditures for this class of schools and the expenditures for education in the rural communities, inasmuch as 95 per cent of the youths of the state never, under present conditions in the rural schools, can hope of receiving any benefit from this great expense; second, as a result of that capital and population is being driven from out commonwealth; therefore we associate ourselves together for the purpose of obtaining immediate relief by eliminating a number of the so-called higher institutions of learning."

The following resolution, indorsing the stand taken by Governor Cruce, also was adopted:

"Whereas, Governor Cruce has de-

monstrated to the people of the state that he is using every possible means of reducing the expense of the administration of state government, and has sent out letters to the public encouraging a closer watch on the expenditure of the local units of government; and whereas, he has indorsed the idea of a reduction of the number of state institutions and the stopping of useless duplication in our educational system, therefore be it resolved by the members of the Taxpayers' Educational League in mass meeting assembled at Oklahoma City, this sixteenth day of December, 1911, that we extend to him our hearty endorsement for the stand he has taken for economy, and pledge ourselves to help in every way possible to make this issue a reality and to reduce our system to a more economic and sane basis in order that capital and population may be encouraged to come into our state."

The following members, in addition to the president and secretary, were appointed to the campaign committee: J. S. Morris of Hooker, George Smith of Chandler and William Moore of Broken Arrow. They will have charge of the campaign for the adoption of the bill. Organizations will be formed in every county of the state, and an aggressive fight will be waged.

J. S. Moore of Altus, who was elected president, declared in his address that the people of the state are tired of the high taxes they are paying for the maintenance of state institutions from which they receive no direct benefits. He said that the Phillips bill was condemned at a meeting of citizens of Altus, Phillips' home town, and that the real framers of the bill are known.

## RAIN AND SNOW IS PREDICTED THIS WEEK

Washington, D. C., Dec. 18.—There are strong indications that the coming week will be marked by rain or snow and generally unsettled and disagreeable weather throughout the United States, according to a bulletin issued Sunday night by the weather bureau. "Temperatures generally," says the bulletin, "will undergo decided changes and the precipitation, which will be in the form of snow and rain in northern and rains in southern districts, will be above normal."

"A disturbance that is now over the western plateau will advance eastward and cross the great central valleys Monday and Tuesday, and reach the eastern states by Tuesday night or Wednesday. Another disturbance will appear in the far west about Thursday, cross the Rocky mountains Friday the central valleys Saturday or Sunday and the eastern states at the beginning of Christmas week."

"The disturbances will be attended by general precipitation, and decided changes in temperatures."

### New Oklahoma Charters.

Oklahoma City, Dec. 18.—The following state charters were issued Saturday:

Jenks Gas Company of Jenks, capital \$1,500; incorporators, F. J. Wulff, M. A. Steele, J. S. Lawhorn, J. B. Simmons and A. M. Engle, all of Jenks. Keely Institute of Oklahoma City, capital \$5,000; incorporators, F. C. Gilliland, W. H. J. Marable and Robert H. Timmons, all of Oklahoma City.

Investors' Publishing company of Oklahoma City, capital \$15,000; incorporators, W. M. Malone, W. H. Pattie and E. B. Cockrell, all of Oklahoma City.

Oklahoma Granite and Monumental company of Oklahoma City, filed articles of incorporation increasing the capital stock from \$100,000 to \$150,000.

Broken Bow Telephone company of Broken Bow, McCurtain county, capital \$1,200; incorporators, E. J. Roberts, Jud Moore of Valliant and S. B. Callahan of Idabel.

### Weather Forecast.

Fair tonight. Tuesday rain or snow.

## GROSS REVENUE TAX LAW INCREASES STATES RECEIPTS

Oklahoma City, Dec. 18.—An increase of 75 per cent over last year in the amount of special taxes collected under the gross revenue law is shown by figures compiled by Special Tax Clerk Lisman of the state auditor's office, which will be included in the annual report of the state auditor. The figures cover the collections for the year ending November 30, 1911.

The figures show that the total of special taxes collected during the year under the gross revenue law, which include gross receipts and gross production taxes, was \$166,427.01. Of this total \$116,465.83 was collected from the gross production tax and \$49,961.18 was collected from the gross receipts tax.

### Land Tax Void.

The report shows that no money was collected under the graduated land tax law, owing to a decision of the federal district court holding the portion of the law as applying to non-residents to be unconstitutional. Upon the advice of the attorney general no effort will be made to collect this tax until finally passed upon by the courts.

The total collections from the income tax, which is levied upon persons having an income in excess of \$3,500 per year upon which no gross revenue taxes are paid, were \$4,671.08. There were \$269 persons in the state subject to this tax according to the returns from the local assessors. Of this number 110 resided in Oklahoma county, forty-one in Muskogee, fourteen in Washington and twelve in Logan. Income taxes were reported from forty of the seventy-six counties.

A total of twenty estate were assessed for inheritance taxes during the year and the state collected from this source \$1,813.72 of a total amount of \$2,347.49 due, some of these taxes being involved in litigation.

### Tax Law Upheld.

Of the total amount of gross receipts of taxes collected, \$44,318.60 was received from corporations doing business in Oklahoma, and \$1,616.03 from corporations doing business both in Oklahoma and other states. The latter class of corporations filed suits in federal courts to test the validity of the

### A Woman Was Robbed While Enroute to Vinita.

Cincinnati, O., Dec. 17.—Mrs. S. L. Baker, traveling from Hinton, W. Va., with her two children on her way to Vinita, Okla., was stranded in Cincinnati today after her purse containing her money and tickets was stolen.

Mrs. Baker expected to meet her husband, who is employed by the Missouri, Kansas and Texas railroad today in Vinita, where they live. Shortly before the train pulled into Cincinnati, Mrs. Baker took one of the children to the rear end of the car to give it a drink of water, leaving the pocketbook with the other child, Lloyd, aged five, who was asleep.

"When I came back," said Mrs. Baker, "some men were leaving the seat where we sat and the next time the conductor came to look at my tickets I could not find the purse."

It was late last night when the train arrived and the mother and her children were taken care of and this morning Superintendent Brown of the Big Four sent the trio on to Vinita.

### A Gift With a Thought In It.

What other Christmas present costs so little and means so much as a subscription to The Youth's Companion—52 weeks for \$1.75? It is a gift which benefits not only the one who receives it, but every member of the same household.

If you do not know The Companion, if you are at all uncertain, just send us a postal card asking for sample copies. Not only is The Companion the best gift you can choose for the money, but the easiest to choose. Keep the loving Christmas thought bright and unweaved by making your gift The Youth's Companion.

The one to whom you give the subscription will receive free The Companion's Calendar for 1912, lithographed in ten colors and gold, and you, too, as giver of the subscription, will receive a copy of the Calendar.

The subscription price is now only \$1.75, but on January 1, 1912, it will be advanced to \$2.00.

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION, 144 Berkeley St., Boston, Mass. New subscriptions received at this office.

tax as applied to corporations engaged in interstate commerce. As a result of the action of the supreme court in upholding the validity of the gross receipts tax law \$4,026.55 in back taxes and penalties have been collected.

The largest revenue to the state from the gross production tax arose from oil and gas companies. The total number of barrels of oil produced during the year, including some that was turned in from the production of the previous year, was 53,607,257, with a total taxable value under the gross production law of \$19,751,655.96. The amount of tax due on this was \$101,331.25, but not all was collected.

### Gas Pays Heavily.

The state collects gross production taxes during the year upon a total gas production of 45,733,485,000 cubic feet, with a taxable value of \$915,000. The total tax collected on production of oil and gas for the year was \$106,561.04.

The number of tons of coal reported to the auditor upon which gross production taxes were paid was 1,456,477 with a taxable value of \$3,127,405.76. The amount of taxes due the state on this production was \$15,651.26 and the amount collected \$8,442.05, the balance uncollected being due to litigation filed by some of the coal companies questioning the legality of the tax.

Only 6,071 tons of asphalt were reported and the amount collected was \$267.69. Other ores upon which gross production taxes were collected were lead, zinc, jack and sledge amounting to 15,059,438 pounds, with taxes collected amounting to \$694.05.

### Intensive Farming.

Editor Daily Chieftain: These are times when there has to be thinking done—close calls for something to eat is pressing many families over a vast area of our country. There is no more land than when Columbus discovered America. The day of big farms and open ranges are almost a thing of the past. There is an outlet that can be reached by thousands in the near future—even right here in Craig county. Small fruits, berries and poultry, with a little industry, care and management any man can make more money on five acres of land than can be made from an average 160 acre farm by raising corn, hay and stock. Say two acres for house, barn and poultry yards and out houses, and three acres for berries. These three acres can be made to bring an income of more than \$700.00 per acre clear. With a couple of first class milk cows, a family horse, and a hundred hens, \$2,000.00 annual income is within reach of every healthy family. Men will race all over the country for the prospect of a paltry \$500.00 office, when home, health, happiness and independence is knocking at their doors with more than \$2,000.00 per year awaiting their possession.

This is no fairy story—it's plain agricultural gospel—within twenty months it is possible to prepare, plant, raise and receive an income of from \$700.00 to \$1,000.00 per acre. The fact that I have not taken the advantage of these conditions does not prove that they are not true. It takes from seven to eight years for an apple tree to come into full bearing. Six crops of berries can be raised and sold during that time. The price of small fruits has steadily gone up for the past ten years. It is costing more and more every year to live. We must learn to increase our income, and reduce our outgo or become paupers. I want it understood now that I am not trying to offer something for nothing. It requires work and brains to succeed in any line these days. However, I positively assert that no trade or profession will pay higher wages than berry growing.

CAPT. G. S. WHITE.

Jake Wimer had a valuable diamond clipped from his shirt front at Parsons on his way to Vinita from his home at Joplin Sunday morning. The thief disappeared in the crowd and was not apprehended. Officers at this place were notified and searched the Katy Flyer on its arrival here but to no purpose.

Sheriff George Mayes of Mayes county, was a Vinita visitor Sunday.

Miss Fannie Brisco, formerly of this city, has returned from Springfield, Mo., and accepted a position as stenographer for W. P. Thompson.

### Don'ts For Christmas.

A house of merriment is better than a house of mourning.

The above is a suggestion from the National Fire Protection Association. The following further suggestions are made:

Do not decorate your Christmas tree with paper, cotton or any other inflammable material. Use metallic tinsel and other nonflammable decorations only, and set the tree securely so that the children in reaching for things can not tip it over.

Do not use cotton to represent snow. If you must have snow use asbestos fiber.

Do not permit children to light or relight the candles while parents are not present. They frequently set fire to their clothing instead. The tree itself will burn when needles have become dry.

Do not leave matches within reach of children at holiday time. Candles are meant to be lighted, and if the children can get matches they will experiment with them. They imitate their elders.

## PENSION MEASURE A CAMPAIGN MOVE

Both Houses of Congress Will Adjourn Thursday Until After the Holidays.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 18.—Both houses will adjourn next Thursday until after the holidays.

The Sherwood so-called dollar-a-day pension bill, which the house has passed, probably will not find an easy way in the senate. Senator Gore of Oklahoma, a leading democratic member of the pension committee, already has started a inquiry into the possibility of passing action until the next session when there will be no presidential election. In the house the effect upon either party of marked liberality to the Mexican and civil war veterans, aggregating possibly \$75,000,000 ultimately, was a conspicuous factor and Senator Gore contends that the subject will not be so popular in congress after the presidential election.

Senator M. Culberson, while not committing himself to the Sherwood bill Sunday, expressed the opinion that some general pension legislation would be enacted during this session of congress.

He believes congressional action should depend on the state of the treasury and has taken steps to ascertain that and to determine what various plans of legislation might cost. Secretary of the Interior Fisher is investigating the cost.

The house democrats with caucus on a number of pending questions, probably soon after the recess. The leaders contend that the economy program must be maintained, that some of the demands of committees and democratic members for appropriations must be refused, but in such a way as to avoid party dissension.

The pension bill, already passed by the house, carrying from \$40,000,000 to \$75,000,000; the demand of the public buildings committee for an annuity measure to carry between \$25,000,000 and \$30,000,000 and other large drafts on the treasury have complicated the situation. Democratic Leader Underwood insists that the public building bill shall not be put through. The work of the investigating committees also is piling up expense.

The tariff board's report is expected from the president this week, but the ways and means committee probably will not recommend action on the wool or other schedules until after the recess, but then will proceed vigorously. The democrats were not agreed last summer as to the raw wool tariff, many favoring free raw wool. This question trust legislation and other things, will be considered in caucus. The plan to open the caucus to the public has had strenuous opposition from those democrats who believe party differences should be settled behind closed doors. Mr. Lorimer will appear before the investigating committee this week and the committee will then adjourn to meet after the Christmas recess. Senator Lorimer will testify under oath for the first time.

The steel investigating committee of the house and the committee on interstate commerce which is investigating trust problems will be in session this week.

Just five more days in which to do that Christmas shopping. Better get busy for the weather man says bad weather is coming.

## CARTER ARRAIGNS TRIBAL DELEGATES

Ardmore Man Says The Chiefs Are Acting in the Best of Faith.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 17.—Claiming that the tribal officials of the Choctaws and Chickasaws who are in Washington fighting the bill providing for the sale of the surface of the Choctaw and Chickasaw segregated coal and asphalt lands, do not represent the wishes of Indians they claim to, Representative Carter, of Oklahoma Saturday created a sensation in the hearing being conducted by the house Indian affairs committee.

Representative Carter went after the opponents of the measure rough shod and called a spade a spade, and from the broad inferences drawn from his remarks, members of the committee were led to believe the officials fought the disposal of the Indian lands in order to perpetuate their jobs.

Mr. Carter pointed out the deplorable conditions caused by the present unsalable condition of the surface of the segregated mineral land. He declared that the vast mineral rights should not be sold now on account of the bad condition of the market and that if they were the Choctaw and Chickasaw tribes would make claim against the federal government for the difference in the value and the purchase price. The Oklahoma congressman declared if after four years experience in congress trying to get the sale of the surface and the mineral rights, he with the majority of the Indians, had concluded that this would be impossible and wanted the sale of the surface immediately.

Scores Tribe Officials. He then paid his compliments to the tribal officials as follows:

"Even since this committee has met for the consideration of this bill, it has had before it these tribal chiefs, delegates and attorneys, vigorously protesting against this bill."

"With all due deference to these so-called tribal officials, I must object to their statement that they represent any Indians in Oklahoma. Let us analyze the source of their power and we will see that it does not come from the people. Every one of them is a direct creation of the interior department. The chief of the Choctaws, was appointed by the president upon the recommendation of the secretary of the interior and not a single Choctaw citizen has any more to say about his ascendancy to the chieftaincy than a Hottentot in Africa has to say who shall be the czar of Russia."

McMurray is Present.

"The tribal delegates and attorneys were appointed by the chief, who, hear in mind, was appointed by the secretary of the interior. Ah, but says the chief, true, I appointed these men but their salaries had to be provided by our tribal council. As the tribal council stands there is not a single member elected for the term he now serves."

"So the committee has objections to this bill by Indians representing who? Nobody on God's green earth but themselves, and the interior department. Yet the interior department has itself approved of this bill, which they are now fighting."

"I see I see, McMurray is present. I want to refer to some contracts which he had several years ago. These contracts gave him a percentage of the price which these lands brought. I simply want to call attention to the fact that all these persons who favored the McMurray contracts, have continually opposed many bills, which have been introduced and pushed for passage providing for the sale of the coal and minerals, both."

Oliver Bethell, of Tulsa, is here for a visit with his mother, Mrs. Sophia Bethell, and to transact business with local cigar dealers.

It seems to take the Owen-Haskell storm a long time to break but the low rumblings continue. The cyclone that is so long coming up generally don't amount to much but Owen and Haskell manage to keep all others off the track effectually. It now develops that it will first be necessary to carry the state for the democratic party and get a democratic legislature before either of these gentlemen can hope to have a seat in the United States senate. But let the fight proceed.

## MILFORD-BERGER SHOE COMPANY.

## Christmas Gift Prices on Trunks, Suit Cases, Bags

Fine Lot of Silk Mufflers and No End of Handsome Ties and Hosiery

Slipper Buckles 50c to \$2